

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication that claims 3-6, 14 and 17 contain allowable subject matter.

The subject matter of claim 3 has generally been incorporated into claim 1 (with conforming amendments) and a portion of the claim 3 subject matter is presented in new claim 21. Claim 1 and its dependent claims 2, 7-10 and 21 are believed to be allowable.

Claim 4 has been written in self-standing independent form and thus this claim and its dependent claims 5 and 6 are believed to be allowable.

The subject matter of claim 14 has been incorporated into claim 11 and thus this claim and its dependent claims 12, 13, 15, 16 and 18 are believed to be allowable.

Claim 17 has been written in self-standing independent form and thus claim 17 is believed to be allowable.

Claim 19 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 17 and thus this claim and its dependent claim 20 are believed to be allowable.

CORDES, R.

Appl. No. 10/506,435


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The pending claims are believed to be allowable and favorable office action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael J. Shea", written over a horizontal line.

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